

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-10 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 OIC-02 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 AGR-05

INT-05 TAR-01 OES-03 XMB-02 /119 W

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R 191806Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0556

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA EGEN

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH FRENCH RE SEVENTH SPECIAL
SESSION UNGA

1. SUMMARY: ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM MET WITH
RENE ST. LEGIER (DIRECTOR OF UN AFFAIRS AT QUAI) TO
DISCUSS BROAD RANGE OF UNGA ISSUES. THIS MESSAGE
COVERS DISCUSSIONS ON SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION AND
TACTICS RE CERDS REFERENCES. FRENCH ANXIOUS TO PROTECT
SAME FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS AS U.S., BUT WILL NOT ALWAYS
BE ABLE TO VOTE THE SAME WAY. THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE
A COMMON EC POSITION FOR SEVENTH SESSION AND GAVE US
RUNDOWN OF THEIR REACTION TO G-77 DRAFT AGENDA. THEY
PLANNING TAKE SOME INITIATIVE UNDER "INDUSTRIALIZATION".
GOF WELCOMED OUR TACTICAL IDEAS ON CERDS BUT HAD NO
CONCLUSIONS AS YET. END SUMMARY.

2. ST. LEGIER BEGAN WITH THE AGENDA. HE SAID GOF HAD
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DECIDED IT WOULD BE BEST NOT TO OPPOSE THE G-77 DRAFT,

I.E. THE LIST OF QUESTIONS. GOF WOULD NOT WANT TO PROPOSE ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THIS LIST. HE THOUGHT WE COULD NOT PREVENT LDCS FROM SPEAKING AND THAT THEY WOULD INSIST ON TALKING ABOUT RAW MATERIALS AND INDEXATION. FRENCH HAVE DISCUSSED THIS VIEW WITH EC-9 BUT THERE IS NO COMMON VIEW AS YET. ST. LEGIER KNEW WE DID NOT FAVOR THE GOF APPROACH.

3. BUFFUM AGREED WE DID NOT WANT TO SEE AGENDA STRUCTURED IN A WAY WHICH WOULD PREJUDGE OUTCOME OF DEBATE. WE ALSO WANT TO AVOID CONFRONTATION AND PREFER A SHORT AGENDA LIMITED TO ITEMS ON WHICH AN ACCORD WOULD BE POSSIBLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECENT EVOLUTION OF THE U.S. VIEWS. WE DO NOT WANT A FIGHT ON THE LIST, BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO RID THE G-77 OF SOME ILLUSIONS AND HELP THEM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS FEASIBLE AND WHAT IS DOUBTFUL.

4. BUFFUM DESCRIBED FOR ST. LEGIER OUR GENERAL CONCEPTION OF THE SEVENTH SESSION. THE U.N. IS NOT AN APPROPRIATE VEHICLE FOR SOLVING ALL LDC PROBLEMS. WE WANT TO BE CONCILIATORY AND HOPE THAT THIS MEETING WILL NOT BE A REPEAT OF THE SIXTH SESSION CONFRONTATION AND THAT THERE CAN BE A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND GREATER HARMONY. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT IN DISCUSSIONS SO FAR THE MAJORITY SENTIMENT IS ON THE MODERATE SIDE. WE CAN JUDGE BETTER AFTER THE ECOSOC, SINCE G-77 UNLIKELY TO FORMULATE FINAL POSITIONS BEFORE THEN. BUFFUM RECALLED HAVING TOLD DE LA GORCE (FRENCH DCM AT WASHINGTON) OUR VIEW THAT UN CANNOT LEGISLATE TRANSFER OF RICHES. THE MAJORITY CAN PASS RESOLUTIONS BUT IT IS THE PRACTICAL EFFECT WHICH COUNTS. WE THINK ALGERIAN TACTICS ARE SUPPORTED LESS AND THAT ALGERIA WILL HAVE A LEADERSHIP PROBLEM IN SEPTEMBER. ST. LEGIER AGREED THAT THE CLIMATE IS MORE FAVORABLE FOR COMPROMISE THAN A YEAR AGO, BUT BOUTEFILKA WILL STILL BE IN THE CHAIR AND WILL FAVOR ALGERIAN VIEWS. ST. LEGIER, WHILE AGREEING THAT A MAJORITY IS NOW INCLINED TO MORE MODERATE VIEWS, RESERVED HIS JUDGMENT ON POSSIBILITIES. HE THOUGHT OUR APPROACH ON THE AGENDA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS REASONABLE AND FELT WE WOULD HAVE BETTER OCCASIONS FOR A CONFRONTATION THAN ON THIS POINT. ON FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS HE COULD FORESEE NO REAL OPPOSITION BY FRANCE OR OTHER EUROPEANS, BUT ON VOTING THERE WOULD STILL BE A GAP.

5. ST. LEGIER STRESSED FRENCH NEED TO DISCUSS ALL THESE ISSUES WITH EC PARTNERS AND ATTEMPT A COMMUNITY

CONSENSUS. DEJAMMET (CHARGED WITH UN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS)
SUMMARIZED GOF VIEWS ON G-77 LIST. ON RAW MATERIALS,
GOF IS OPPOSED TO INDEXATION BUT RECOGNIZES SPECIAL
PROBLEMS OF LDCS AND IS WILLING TO CONSIDER ORGANIZA-
TION OF MARKETS PRODUCT BY PRODUCT (A LONG-STANDING
GOF POSITION). GOF ALSO OPPOSED TO UNCTAD INTEGRATED
APPROACH TO COMMODITIES AS TOO RIGID. FRENCH WOULD
LIKE TO SEE MORE WORK ON INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTS, FEWER
THAN UNCTAD'S 19, BUT MORE THAN EC COMMISSION'S FIVE.

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IN GOF VIEW WORK ON THIS BASIS LOGICALLY PRECEDES
CONSIDERATION OF STABEX TYPE ARRANGEMENTS, BUT GOF DOES
NOT WISH TO EXCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF LATTER. ON
TRANSFER OF REVENUES, GOF IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT AUTOMATIC
MECHANISMS AND HAS SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF UN DECISIONS IN THIS AREA. REGARDING

DEBT ISSUES, DEJAMMET REFERRED APPROVINGLY TO CONCLUSION OF THE UNCTAD EXPERT GROUP, ACCEPTED BY BOTH DCS AND LDCS, THOUGH IT DID NOT DEAL WITH DIFFICULT QUESTION OF MORATORIUM. PERHAPS THIS WORK COULD BE CONFIRMED AT THE AUGUST PREPCON, HE SUGGESTED. ON THE SPECIAL FUND, HE SAID GOF VIEWS WERE THE SAME AS OURS. GOF CONSIDERS TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AN IMPORTANT ITEM, BUT ARE OPPOSED TO A CODE OF CONDUCT. PROVISION SHOULD BE MADE FOR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING BUT THIS IS BEST HANDLED UNDER INDUSTRIALIZATION. GOF BELIEVES INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM IS NOT AN APPROPRIATE SUBJECT FOR UN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEBATE OR DECISION. GOF THINKS AREA READY FOR USEFUL DEBATE IS INDUSTRIALIZATION. GOF DOES NOT WANT TO TALK ABOUT RELOCATION OF INDUSTRY, PREFERRING TO DISCUSS "IMPLANTATION." GOF WOULD AGREE TO SETTING UP OF A PERMANENT INSTITUTION FOR CONSULTATION (HE EMPHASIZED NOT REPEAT NOT AN INSTITUTION FOR PERMANENT CONSULTATION) ON ECONOMIC GROWTH PROBLEMS. STUDIES COULD BE UNDERTAKEN ON HOW BEST TO INFLUENCE A BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF CENTERS OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION. GOF WOULD LIKE TO ASSOCIATE PRIVATE ENTREPRENEURS IN CONSULTATION PROCESS, BUT REALIZE THERE WILL BE OPPOSITION; DEJAMMET SAID FRENCH WORKING UP TEXT OF RESOLUTION ON THIS SPECIFIC SUBJECT WHICH THEY HOPE EC WILL ACCEPT AND THAT OTHER DCS WILL SUPPORT. GOF OBJECTIVE IS TO CREATE MOMENTUM OF DISCUSSION AND GIVE WORK ON THIS SUBJECT A DIRECTION WITHOUT INSISTING TOO MUCH.

6. ST. LEGIER BROUGHT UP OUR AIDE-MEMOIRE ON THE CERDS REFERENCE PROBLEM (PER SECSTATE 133602). HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE EVIDENCE OF MORE FLEXIBILITY ON OUR PART AND THOUGHT OUR APPROACH COULD BE FOLLOWED IN MANY CASES. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT FRANCE HAD NOT VOTED WITH THE U.S. ON THE CHARTER AND THAT FACT WOULD MAKE A COMMON POSITION DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. THE EC-9 WOULD TRY HARD TO REACH A COMMON VIEW. HE SAID HE WOULD DRAW UP A CATALOG OF SITUATIONS WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED FOR COOPERATIVE ACTION AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US LATER.

7. BUFFUM REAFFIRMED OUR DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION OR TO GIVE THE APPEARANCE THAT THE DCS WERE FORMING A BLOC. IN THE G-77, HOWEVER, THE OVERRIDING PRINCIPLE IS GROUP SOLIDARITY WHICH IS THE SOURCE OF THEIR STRENGTH. IF WE CAN CONVEY TO THE G-77 A SENSE OF MODERATION AND FLEXIBILITY WHILE REMAINING FIRM ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES IT SHOULD BE EASIER TO REGISTER NEGATIVE VOTES. WE HOPE THE GOF WILL TAKE A FRESH

LOOK AT ITS VOTING OPTIONS AND THAT WE CAN HARMONIZE
OUR POSITIONS NOT ONLY ON REFERENCES TO CERDS BUT ON
THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUES.

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8. THIS MESSAGE WAS PREPARED AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF
ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM.
RUSH

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